

X INFORMATION

TAB SECTION: 4

X ACTION REQUIRED:

DATE OF MEETING: 2/21/08

PREPARED BY: Sheri Whitt

DATE MATERIAL  
PREPARED: 2/8/08

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AGENDA ITEM: Workforce Education and Training (WET): Review Tool; Consent Agenda

ENCLOSURES:

- Draft MHSOAC WET Review Tool
- DMH Proposed WET Guidelines
- Draft Revised MHSOAC Review Process
- DMH WET Review Process
- Mono County WET Plan
- Monterey County WET Plan

OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM: Mental Health Services Act

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**ISSUE:**

**Action:** Consider adopting MHSOAC WET Review Tool as presented

Staff, in consultation with Commissioner Patrick Henning, have prepared the enclosed Draft MHSOAC WET Review Tool, consistent with the contents of the DMH Proposed WET Guidelines, also enclosed. This review tool will be used by the MHSOAC WET Review Team as a guide in preparing draft comments to each county's WET Plan.

**Information:** Consider amending the MHSOAC review process to require that the MHSOAC approve a staff-generated review tool for WET, CSS, and Capitol Facilities/Information Technology/Housing. Action cannot be taken at this meeting because this item came to our attention after the agenda was posted. If the Commission would like to amend the review process it will also need to decide how and when to take action (timeliness will be a factor so the Commission may wish to consider whether to add this as an item to the March Strategic Plan meeting, whether to take this action via a teleconference call, whether to wait until the April MHSOAC meeting, etc)

The current MHSOAC review process requires the MHSOAC to approve a review tool and criteria for Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) and Innovation (INN), but not for other MHSA plan components. The MHSOAC should approve these review tools and criteria that guide these comments. The WET review tool is attached. The review tools for the other components are being developed by staff.

**Information:** Consider amending the MHSOAC Review Process to delegate to the MHSOAC review teams the responsibility to communicate to DMH comments about WET, CSS, Capitol Facilities/Information Technology, Housing plan components without approval of these comments by the MHSOAC. As mentioned above, if the Commission would to make this amendment the action will need to be taken within the parameters outlined above.

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**ISSUE: (Continued)**

The current MHSOAC review process for CSS, WET, and Capitol Facilities/Information Technology/Housing states that review and comment on county plan components is conducted by an MHSOAC review team consisting of MHSOAC staff (including the recommendation to contract with consultants from the DMH expert pool) and any interested commissioners, who can choose to participate in the review of any plan. The review process requires commissioners to approve the review team's comments at the next MHSOAC meeting through a consent agenda. MHSOAC Staff are unable to provide DMH with official MHSOAC comments before the approval from the MHSOAC as a whole is obtained.

The need for the MHSOAC to approve the review team's comments significantly delays the timeframe for DMH review and approval of county plan components. This creates a problem for DMH to consider the MHSOAC's comments as part of its review because DMH cannot consider the MHSOAC's comments and still meet its commitment to complete its review and action within 30 business days. In addition, if the MHSOAC decides to meet less often than monthly, the delay would be even longer.

To remedy this problem, staff propose that the MHSOAC delegate authority to its review team to provide comments to DMH to use in reviewing and approving WET, CSS, Capitol Facilities/Information Technology/Housing plans without MHSOAC review and approval. The MHSOAC review teams will use a review tool that is based on DMH proposed guidelines and approved the MHSOAC, as the basis for comments. Staff will provide commissioners with periodic updates on issues and trends related to counties' WET plans that emerge through the overall review and comment process. Staff will also confer with Lead Commissioners for WET, as well as the Commission as a whole if necessary, on any issues that arise regarding plan review and comment.

Enclosed for your information are the WET plans for Mono and Monterey Counties. Please note that staff have prepared draft comments in response to the WET plan received from Mono County. If the MHSOAC adopts this action, staff will provide these comments to DMH. If the MHSOAC does not adopt this action, staff will post the comments to the MHSOAC's consent agenda for action at the next MHSOAC meeting, consistent with the current review process.